



VOLUME 6

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, JANUARY 1950

NUMBER 3

Board of Trustees Report for the Year 1949

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, WINNIPEG

The Church year now drawing to a close has been a busy one for the board of trustees, it has also been a happy one, and I might say successful. It has been happy because, at all meetings held, a spirit of good-fellowship and keen interest in the welfare of our church was clearly in evidence at all times. The meetings were all well attended and, all duties allocated to respective members were dealt with promptly and efficiently. The help and co-operation by officers and members of the congregation in furthering the welfare and progress of our church, has at all times been greatly appreciated by the board of trustees.

Our President, Mr. Albert Wathne, in his annual report, will eulogize fully and thankfully regarding the good work that has been done by the various organizations in our church.

Your secretary, however, would like to take this opportunity to express sincere thanks and appreciation to the Senior Ladies' aid, the Women's association, and the Dorcas Society of our church, for the magnificent work they continually do, and for the splendid financial assistance—which the board of trustees continually needs, and receives, from these good ladies. May God bless them with strength to carry on the good work in the interest of our church.

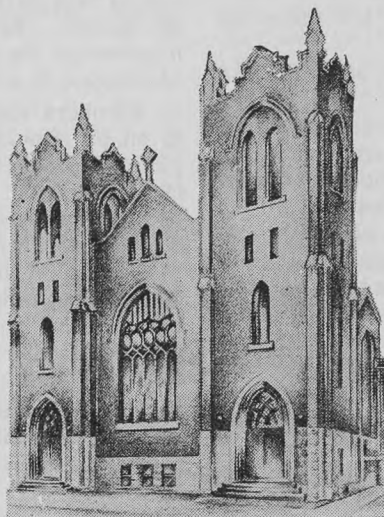
A matter of importance to this congregation

should again be brought into the light. It concerns the need for a new manse in the not too distant future. The present manse continues to need repairs and replacements which will increase in cost to the congregation as time

goes on. The board of trustees are in full agreement that a start should be made now to build for the future. With this in mind a special savings account was opened with the Royal Bank of Canada to receive donations from members, friends and estates for the manse project. This is a much needed project and should receive adequate publicity and support. It is felt there are many members and friends who would welcome the opportunity of making special contributions to a fund designed to provide suitable housing accommodation for our pastor and his family. The treasurer was

instructed to place the donation from the late Mr. Justice H. A. Bergman, of \$200 to the manse project, in this special savings account.

A committee was appointed to enquire into the advisability of making a charge to non-members for the use of the church for weddings. The report stated that many churches in the city make a charge for the use of the church for such occasions, and it was felt, to be fair and in order, for the governing body of this church to state an amount to cover the expense of maintaining heat, light etc. The board



The First Lutheran Church

The Parish Messenger

English Language Organ of the Icelandic
Lutheran Synod.

Business Manager: GISSUR ELIASSON
890 Dominion St.

Editor: THE REV. VALDIMAR J. EYLANDS
776 Victor St., Winnipeg, Man.

Subscription Price, \$1.00 per year



27

ultimately agreed that a charge of \$20 be set for the use of the church for weddings in all cases where neither party is a member in good standing of this or any other Lutheran church. The President and the pastor to decide if payment should be requested.

The board of trustees are very thankful to the members of the board of deacons who so thoroughly and efficiently renovated and made beautiful the vestry of our church. The delightful appearance of the vestry is the result of the splendid work done mostly by voluntary help, the church treasury paying only for the carpenter work, paint and stair carpet. Other donations to the vestry for which this board is most grateful, were made by the following good friends:

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Summers — beautiful rug and mat.

Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Stephenson—venetian blind.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Baldwin — mirror.

Mr. and Mrs. K. G. Finnsson — paper container.

Mr. Fridbjorn Frederickson — donated \$10.00.

Mr. R. Bergson — settee and two chairs.

Mr. G. Levy—fluorescent light and installation.

Mr. Haldor Haldorson, Victoria, B.C. generously donated to the church a Webster recording machine with accessories. This article is much appreciated and will be used often for the benefit of those who are unable to attend church service, and for other occasions.

Mr. and Mrs. O. V. Olafson, donated to the church a custom built public address system with five earphones and three loud speakers.

Installation of this equipment was made and completed by Mr. Paul Goodman, without charge.

The old loud speaker system is now being overhauled and will eventually be installed in the lower auditorium.

The board of trustees thankfully acknowledge these welcome contributions made for the betterment and enjoyment of church services.

Church Activities —

The Augsburg Choral Club, a group of young talented singers, held a concert in the main

auditorium of the church February 8th. The attendance was excellent and all enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

The Icelandic Canadian Club and the Icelandic National League were granted the use of the church for their annual affair February 21st and February 23rd respectively.

The I.O.D.E. held a concert in the main auditorium of the church Monday evening, March 14th.

The Betel concert, sponsored by the Senior Ladies Aid, for the benefit of the Gimli Old Folk's Home, was held March 1st.

Following a long established custom, the Senior Ladies Aid sponsored a concert, held in the main auditorium of the church on April 21st. At the conclusion of a fine program, the pastor spoke briefly "on the first day of summer in Iceland". Refreshments followed to round out a very enjoyable evening.

A home-coming fellowship hour was held in the lower auditorium of the church on Sunday, October 23rd, following the evening service, conducted in English. The language barrier was removed on this occasion so as to allow all members of the congregation to attend church, and to take part in the social hour at the close of service. Refreshments were served by members of the board of trustees and the board of deacons, to a large gathering of friends.

Members and friends of our church were given an opportunity to see the latest moving picture produced by the United Lutheran Church entitled "Like A Mighty Army." The picture was shown in the lower auditorium Sunday evening, September 18th, immediately at the close of the evening service. This realistic and stirring religious drama, vividly illustrated how much "good" can be accomplished by united christian endeavor.

The First Lutheran Church was permitted only one broadcast service during the year 1949. We will endeavor to obtain more favorable consideration in the year 1950.

The morning service was broadcast from this church January 30th, over station C.B.W. The pastor also conducted the "Church of the Air" service June 19th, at 1:30 p.m., assisted by the choir and soloist.

The pastor, Rev. V. J. Eylands, was granted a salary increase in accordance with the resolution passed at the annual meeting of the congregation held December 7th, 1948. Upward adjustments were also made in the emolument allowed the soloist Mrs. Pearl Johnson, and the sexton Mr. G. Gunnlaugson.

Two electric stoves, each with four elements, have replaced the gas stoves in the kitchen. This will undoubtedly be a welcome change—cleaner and easier to handle. The men's club

having donated the gas stoves which were purchased from the Winnipeg Electric Co., carried an exchange allowance which greatly helped us to meet the expense of the new stoves and installation. We thank the men's club for this financial assistance. We also thank Mr. Paul Goodman for doing a splendid job and for doing the work without charge.

The activities of the Dr. B. J. Brandon memorial committee concluded with the unveiling of the plaque in the church on Sunday morning, May 29th, 1949. A letter of sincere thanks and appreciation for the excellent manner in which the committee handled all phases of its work, has been addressed to the chairman, Mr. Lincoln G. Johnson. The cost of the plaque, plus miscellaneous expenses, amounted to \$523 dollars. This total cost will be paid out of the church treasury.

The decorating of the lower auditorium was completed May 3rd. All will agree a splendid job was done. Mr. K. W. Johannson, gave this special attention, at cost. For this we are indeed grateful.

Two rubber mats, size 42x71 were purchased and placed at each front entrance to the church.

The following necessary repairs to the church and the manse were completed during the year.

Church

The insulating material placed in the church attic, has been found to be moist at certain times during the year due to condensation. To eliminate this condition, we were advised to place louvres into the wall at each end of the building allowing free circulation of air. We had an experienced workman do the job this summer, we trust the results will be positive.

The tower on the south side of the building has for a long time been the source of trouble and expense. Time and weather and the pigeons all combined to make necessary repairs too frequent at this particular spot. So this year we replaced the flooring, put on a new roof, and repaired the drain pipes. All four openings in the tower have now been closed so as to keep out moisture and dirt. The four openings in the north tower were screened.

Time and moisture, was also showing its effect on mortar condition between the bricks in some parts of the building. To overcome this trouble we had an expert repoint the bricks where necessary, and also cement and repair the front steps.

We were advised by a heating inspector that the furnace would have to be re-lined before next winter. We had this work completed during the summer holidays. The heating system should now be in first class shape.

This completes the report on major church

GIMLI LUTHERAN PARISH BIDS FAREWELL TO REV. AND MRS. SIGURGEIRSON

On their departure from Gimli Parish after five years of service, the different congregations of this large pastoral charge bid them farewell.

The residents of "Betel" honored them at a dinner held at the home on Sunday, August 14. Mrs. Talman, the matron, addressed them and expressed the appreciation of the old people, and presented them with a gift.

The Lutheran Ladies Aid entertained for Mrs. Sigurgeirson at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Scribner on August 18. Mrs. I. N. Bjarnason, on behalf of the society, presented to her a scroll and a gift of money, in thankful appreciation of her splendid work.

At Hecla Island on August 23, the community held a farewell for them. Mr. Helgi K. Tomasson addressed them very fittingly on behalf of the congregation and the community, and made a presentation to them. Mrs. H. W. Sigurgeirson thanked the pastor on behalf of the young

repairs necessary to this date. Other minor repairs and replacements were made, which will not be further mentioned, only to say, they add to the cost of keeping the church in the desired condition.

Manse

A break in the water pipe under the basement floor, necessitated putting in a new water pipe from the street to assure no further recurrence of leakage. We were able to have this work done almost immediately, thus avoiding possible damage to the basement.

The sunroom roof, sprung a leak during a rainfall causing slight damage to the plaster on the ceiling. We had a roof repair man re-tar the roof and repair the drain pipes. New screens were made for the windows and the doors. We also had an experienced man put a plywood top on the kitchen floor and new linoleum laid thereon.

Much more work needs to be done, both inside and out, to put the manse in the condition we would all like it to be. The heavy cost and questionable wisdom of such undertaking has given your board much concern.

In conclusion, we trust, that in your opinion, the affairs of our church have been conducted to your satisfaction. You may rest assured that the new board of trustees will continue, with God's help, to give of their best and serve you well. We hope that you all will give us your support and help, by attending service regularly and sharing the many problems that face our church.

Respectfully submitted,

O. V. OLAFSON, Secretary.

people of the Island, and mentioned particularly the splendid Church attendance of the younger generation during the past five years.

On August 24, Miss Anna Nordal, the organist and choir leader entertained at her home for the pastor and his wife. Amongst those present were, the senior choir of the Lutheran Church, the choir of the Unitarian Church, and other friends. An engraved locket and a sum of money was presented to Mrs. Sigurgeirson on behalf of both choirs by Miss Nordal in grateful appreciation of her valuable choir work in the community.

On August 30th, the congregations of Gimli, Arnes and Husavik bid them farewell at the Lutheran Church in Gimli, at a very large and representative gathering. Amongst those present were; Rev. Bjarnason of Arborg, who presided, also the president of the synod, Rev. Fafnis of Mountain, N.D., and his wife. Rev. Fafnis addressed the gathering, stressing the importance of continuing the work in the parish, and also the vital value of bilingualism in the present work of the synod. Also taking part in the program was the Junior Choir, accompanied by Mrs. Orton, and directed by Mrs. Frank; little Lorna Stefanson, accompanied by Mrs. Sylvia Kardal, entertained with several vocal selections, much to the delight of everyone. Dr. Scribner addressed the honored guests on behalf of the parish and the community, his address follows:

Honored guests, ladies and gentlemen, it affords me great pleasure to have been given the opportunity of making this presentation. To you Rev. and Mrs. Sigurgeirson I have a few words to say.

When you came to Gimli over five years ago, our Parish had been without a minister for many months. Church activities had sunk to a very low ebb. The Sunday School, although it had managed to carry on, was sorely in need of direction and leadership.

Since your arrival in our district, due, largely to your untiring efforts, the membership of the congregation has increased considerably. General interest in all church activities has been very encouraging. The Sunday School has become a great institution, and is becoming more and more progressive as time goes by. You may well be proud, as we are with you, of the good work you have done while you have been with us.

We all know that the life of a minister and his wife is not an easy one. Many conditions and circumstances arise that are trying and difficult. This Parish is no exception. It is indeed, made more difficult by the distances and inaccessibility of its outlying points. On many an occasion I have been traveling the back roads

of the highway, to come upon our pastor, struggling along on foot, through deep snow, facing a high wind, in sub zero temperatures, on his way to visit the sick, or to hold a preparatory class for confirmation. Then there are the difficult trips to the Island of Hecla, which are made under all types, and even dangerous weather conditions. In spite of all this the districts of Gimli, Husavick, Arnes and Hecla have been well and faithfully served.

The position of Rev. and Mrs. Sigurgeirson, in this community is rather unique, in that the district is one in which they spent many of their earlier years. In fact "Skuli" as he is known to most of you, spent his boyhood days here. There are very few ministers, who are called by their first names, in the parish in which they work.

Entirely through your efforts Mrs. Sigurgeirson we have the Junior choir. How well they can sing, has been clearly demonstrated here tonight, by the beautiful numbers we have just heard. The choir has been a great help in the church services, and on special occasions when they have been called upon to sing, have been greatly appreciated and enjoyed.

Not only have you carried out your duties in connection with the church, but you have served the community at large, in many other capacities. You have given of your time, energies and talents, in all organizations and movements, that have made for the betterment of our community.

Your interest and help that you have given the "Old Folks Home" need not be elaborated upon. These "aldna folk" have no doubt told you over and over again how much they appreciate your work, and will also have expressed to you, how deeply they will miss you when you are gone.

As for the rest of us, this group of friends gathered here in this church, we want you to know, and I say it in all sincerity, we are truly sorry to see you go. We, your parishioners, and friends of Gimli, Husavick and Arnes, wish you to accept this chest of silver flatware, and this envelope, as a small gesture of thanks and appreciation for what you have done for us.

We will, I know, never be able to give you in a material way, what you deserve, but it is our hope, that in this memento, you will cherish in the years to come, the friendships that you have made while in Gimli.

We all join in wishing you the best of everything in your new field, and may Divine Providence guide you on your way."

* * *

Rev. and Mrs. Sigurgeirson are now living at Foam Lake, Saskatchewan, where the pastor has accepted a call to the Foam Lake-Wynyard Mission Parish.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

It is indeed a pleasure to be able to publish such a long list of subscription dues received. While these acknowledgements are in the main for subscription renewals there are included amongst them some new subscribers, which is a gratifying fact to note. To all these subscribers who have supported this paper by keeping their subscription dues up to date, we, on behalf of our "Parish Messenger" who is so dependent on their support, express our sincere appreciation and thanks.

Kristine Davidson, Edinburg, N.D.	1.00
Mrs. Emil Sigurdson, Leslie, Sask.	1.00
Mr. Asgeir Gislason, Leslie, Sask.75
Mr. M. Egilson, 2530E-7 Ave. Vancouver	1.00
Mrs. Fred A. Johnson, Leslie, Sask.	1.00
Mrs. H. J. Helgason, Foam Lake, Sask.	1.00
Mrs. S. Olafson, Riverton, Man.	1.00
Mrs. Th. Hermann, 120 Lenore St. Wpg.	2.00
Mrs. G. Hhorsteinson, 482 Simcoe St. Wpg.	1.00
Mrs. Olga Morgan, 888 Minto St. Wpg.	1.00
Mrs. Bjorn Johnson, Leslie, Sask.	2.00
Mrs. Finnur Sigurdson, Leslie, Sask.	1.00
Mrs. Helgi Eyolfson, Leslie, Sask.	1.00
Mrs. John Stefansson, Box 974 Blaine,	1.00
Mr. O. S. Paulson, Blaine, Wash.	1.00
Mrs. Ella Wells, Box 891, Blaine, Wash.	1.00
Mrs. Th. Gudmundson, Leslie, Sask.	1.00
Mrs. A. O. Bjarnason, Leslie, Sask.25
Mrs. Sig. Sigbjornson, Leslie, Sask.	1.00
Miss Kristin Borgfjord, Leslie, Sask.	1.00
Mrs. W. G. Dunlop, Box 195, Foam Lake	1.00
Mrs. Sophia Gudmundson, Minneota, Minn.	3.00
Mrs. J. A. Thompson, Langruth, Man.	2.00
Mr. J. Hannesson, Langruth, Man.	1.00
Mrs. G. Thorleifson, Langruth, Man.	2.00
Mrs. W. Dalman, 735 Toronto St. Wpg.	1.00
Mrs. F. Dalman, 894 Downing St. Wpg.	1.00
Mr. H. Solvason, Banning St. Wpg.	1.00
Mrs. W. J. Arnason, Gimli, Man.	2.00
Mr. S. A. Sigvaldson, Ivanhoe, Minn.	2.00
Mr. S. J. Isfeld, Taunton, Minn.	1.00
Mrs. O. G. Oddleifson, Arborg, Man.	1.00
Mrs. Th. I. Kristjanson, Vidir, Man.	1.00
Mr. B. Jonasson, Vidir, Man.	1.00
Mrs. J. J. Thorvardson, 768 Victor St. Wpg.	1.75
Mr. Grimur Eyman, Selkirk, Man.	1.00
Mr. O. V. Olafson, 1008 Dominion St. Wpg.	1.00
Mrs. Jennie Johnson, Minneota, Minn.	1.50
Mrs. Otto Anderson, Minneota, Minn.	1.50
Rev. C. R. Cronmiller, 16 Kent St. Welland, Ont.	1.00
Mrs. Lawrence, Stevens, Gimli, Man.	1.00
Mrs. Grace Johnson, 2411E-23 Oakland, Calif.	1.00
Mrs. John Olafson, Gardar, N.D.	2.00
Mr. H. Nicholson, Gimli, Man.	1.00
Mrs. B. B. Jonsson, 774 Victor St. Wpg.	2.00

THE STEWARDSHIP LETTER

Missions and Benevolence Fund

At our last "Kirkjuthing" in Argyle we talked a lot about the *Missions Fund*, (sometimes called "Income Objective"). We talked about all the tremendous and important work that must be accomplished by this fund. We heard that it is the gifts of us all to this cause that supports all the home missions work of our church, and foreign missions, and social-missions etc. And all of us, delegates and pastors, agreed that we would support this great cause better this year than last year. (One layman in our Synod, when he heard about all the important work of this cause, increased his annual gift to Missions from \$5 to \$25!).

Our Synod's fair proportionate share is \$6,000, of which we contributed only about 20 per cent or \$1,200 last year. This year let every congregation of synod try to contribute their share of this amount. Refer to this year's "Gjordabok" for your share. Prepare now to have your congregation do their part.

Whatever means you use to support this great cause, make it more effective, whether it be through special offerings, or taking a portion from your general church fund, or through special solicitation, or use of the "duplex envelope". And give every member in your congregation opportunity to contribute. Tell them about the mission work they are supporting and they will give generously and gladly.

Another field in our Icelandic Synod is now receiving support from the Missions Fund of our United Lutheran Church, until they can become organized to the extent of becoming self-sustaining. That is the Foam Lake-Kandahar parish in Saskatchewan, being served by Pastor and Mrs. Sigurgeirsson. Such re-organizational work, besides entirely new missions work is going on all over Canada and the U.S., being given its start by all of us members of the various synods of the United Lutheran Church. This is truly the Lord's work. Let us do our share in the great work of extending His Kingdom.

A blessed and joyous Christmas to you all!

Faithfully yours,
ERIC H. SIGMAR,
Stewardship Sec. Icelandic Synod

—†—

There are, in the United Lutheran Church, 32 Synods, 4,100 congregations, 3,800 pastors, 50,000 church councilmen, 1,340,000 confirmed members. The total budget for 1950 is \$4,830,900.00.

**CANADIAN LUTHERAN WORLD
RELIEF HOLDS 4th ANNUAL
MEETING AT WINNIPEG
January 5th, 1950.**

An increasing emphasis on immigration was the keynote of the 4th Annual Meeting of Canadian Lutheran World Relief, held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, January 5th, 1950. Representatives from all Lutheran bodies in Canada were present.

Much attention was given to the report on the Lutheran Labour Scheme sponsored by C.L.W.R. during 1949. Under this Scheme 224 refugees were brought to Canada and placed on farms. Many homeless refugee families along with some single men and girls were thus enabled to begin a new life within Lutheran rural parishes in Canada. "These people have given a good account of themselves", said the Rev. C. L. Monk, Executive Secretary. "Reports continue to be highly satisfactory". These refugees were selected overseas by officials of Lutheran World Federation Service to Refugees, and their travel costs were advanced by C.L.W.R. on a recoverable basis. The meeting was told that the first three groups which came had paid back 25 per cent of the money advanced for travel costs within five months of arrival in Canada. Those present heard several favorable comments from high government officials certifying to the satisfactory and efficient manner in which Canadian Lutheran World Relief had handled the various immigration projects undertaken during the last two years. It was stated that lessons learned from the Canadian Lutheran Labour Scheme will be valuable as similar schemes are initiated for the resettlement of refugee families in other countries.

It was decided to continue the Lutheran Labour Scheme during 1950 and efforts will be intensified to solicit farm applications for the placement of families, single men and girls. Workers on a part-time basis will be engaged to develop applications in promising areas. The meeting also favoured cooperation with the International Refugee Organization, if called upon for assistance in the placement of Displaced Persons for whom it is necessary to find special assurances of employment.

The delegates heard a report on the Canadian Christian Council for the Resettlement of Refugees, of which C.L.W.R. is a charter member. 10,217 refugees, the so-called Volks-deutsche, have been brought to Canada under the auspices of C.C.C.R.R. More than 6,500 of the 10,217 refugees are Lutherans.

The relief program of C.L.W.R. was also discussed. During 1949 65,825 lbs., of used

clothing, shoes, layettes, and kiddies' kits were gathered in Canada and shipped overseas. This was almost a 100 per cent increase over shipments made during 1948. Those present at the meeting were much concerned that the gathering of used clothing be continued and that more attention be given to the promotion of the Used Clothing Program. It was stressed that the need for used clothing is still extremely urgent. Most of the clothing collected in 1949 was shipped to Evangelisches Hilfswerk in Germany but some went to the Camp of C.C.C.R.R. to help needy refugees who pass through it.

The report on food shipments showed that 126,675 lbs., of food were sent overseas during 1949. Most of it went for child-feeding in the Eastern Zone of Germany where conditions are extremely bad. To meet the growing menace of tuberculosis the meeting voted to purchase and ship immediately \$4,000 worth of Cod Liver Oil for distribution by Evangelisches Hilfswerk in the Eastern Zone of Germany.

Since its inception in April 1946 C.L.W.R. has contributed for relief 300,741 lbs., of used clothing and 1,776,747 lbs., of food at a cost of \$430,000.

For 1950 C.L.W.R. has adopted a budget of \$40,000. Of this amount \$25,000 are expected from Lutheran World Action funds gathered in Canada during 1950 and the three Canadian Districts of the Lutheran Church. Missouri Synod will endeavour to raise \$15,000. C.L.W.R. is the arm of all Lutheran bodies in Canada in the field of relief and immigration.

The President, Dr. Rex H. Schneider, Regina, Saskatchewan, was re-elected as were the Secretary, Dr. G. A. Heiman and the Treasurer, Dr. T. O. F. Herzer, both of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

C. L. MONK

**TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM
PASTOR GOTTSCHESKI,
BAD OLDESLOE, GERMANY**

"When the weather is unfavorable, one-third of my catechetical class is usually unable to come, simply because they have not even the most primitive shoes and the necessary clothing to keep them warm. No wonder that the spread of communicable diseases is so rapidly increasing. Tuberculosis spreads and resistance becomes lower and lower. Instead of one hospital before the war we now have four, which, however, are still not able to accommodate the masses of sick bodies! Underrnourishment does not remain without consequences.

"That we in this extensive distress are able

to distribute relief through your gifts fills us with heartiest gratitude! We pastors have long lists of specially needy cases, and each time when your gifts of love arrive, we stand before the insoluble problem of finding the neediest of them and making them happy through a gift. Naturally food as well as clothing can only be distributed in insufficient quantities, in order to give to as many as possible a small item to help them on their way. But what joy even the

smallest gift brings! How often the family gathers together around the gift and sings a hymn of praise! You should have experienced the joy of a woman, who on her flight had lost husband and three children and was herself wounded in both legs! One leg was replaced by a wooden one; the other remained crippled. She lives in a little attic room and must climb a steep stairway several times daily. How she was able to give thanks for your gift!"

NOTES from OUR PARISHES

NOTES FROM VANCOUVER

By INGRID SIGURDSON

Vancouver had a white Christmas and on December 27 in our church one of the most popular members of the Luther League, Miss Hazel Sigurdson was a lovely and radiant bride in white satin as she walked up the aisle of the Church on her father's arm, preceded by a young flower girl Eileen Wick, sister of the bridegroom and two lovely bridesmaids dressed in becoming pastel gowns, to exchange vows with Allan Wilbur Wick. A distinctive note of the bride's costume was the lovely white Prayer Book she carried on which was pinned a purple orchid. The church looked beautiful with the huge decorated Christmas tree, and white mums and tapers. Miss Margaret Sigmar sang "Oh Perfect Love" and "Because". A reception followed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gordon. The latter is Hazel's twin sister Kathleen. The young couple spent their honeymoon in Seattle.

Everywhere Christmas and New Year's Services are "Special". At our Boxing Day Service the annual Tree, concert and treats for the children was followed by a coffee party downstairs sponsored by the W.A. The service was conducted by the Rev. Harold Sigmar of Seattle, Miss Margaret Sigmar sang "In Bethlehem a Child Was Born", and Mr. Stefan Solvason was in charge of the program.

The residents of the Old Folks Home "Hofn" were not forgotten, when on Christmas Eve a lovely Icelandic Service with carol singing was conducted by our pastor and Solskin Ladies Aid provided a huge tree with gifts and refreshments for all.

At the first trustees meeting of the year held at the home of Mr. Gunther Hendrickson on January 5, our pastor tendered his resignation to take effect six months from that date. He gave as his reason that his health would not permit him to render energetic leadership and

service so urgently needed at this time, due to the building program and consequent necessary expansion and due to the accelerated activities of the church.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Sigmar have given wholeheartedly of their time and talents with cooperation and friendliness to the congregation during what seems like a very short stay here and it was with deep regrets that the trustees accepted Dr. Sigmar's resignation.

One of Vancouver's most beloved Old Time pioneers passed away in the General Hospital on January 2, in the person of Bernhard Thorsteinsson, age 84. Because of his kind and friendly manner he had a host of friends here and the sympathy of all who knew him go to his five children who mourn the loss of a loving father. Our pastor assisted at his funeral services as well as conducting the services for Sesselia Olson a resident of the Old Folks Home here, who died December 9, and for Soffonias Sigbjornsson who passed away December 31.

A charming family in the persons of Dr. and Mrs. Wilfred Thorleifson and their daughter Thelma have come here from Brandon, Man., to make their home in the Parkview Apts, on Cambie Street. The doctor is assistant Radiologist at St. Paul's Hospital, while his daughter Thelma is the only Icelandic girl in board residence at Crofton House Private School.

Mr. W. Mooney is a patient in the General Hospital where he underwent an operation. Mrs. G. Grimson is improving nicely and is now able to walk around the house.

Miss Gertha Christopherson of 4491 Harriette Street, who suffered a stroke three years ago is still confined to her bed. She has a host of friends who visit her and much of her time is spent in reading. Mr. Luther Christopherson her nephew who has always lived with her has looked after her most faithfully. Our best wishes to both of them for 1950.

Mrs. Mathiason opened her home to the W.A.

for an interesting December meeting while the January meeting was held at the home of Mrs. H. Sigmar. At this meeting Mrs. Mathilda Frederickson and Mrs. Archie Orr of the Solskin Club were visitors, and arrangements were made whereby the W.A. would sponsor two entertainments a year for the Old Folks Home, for two different months of the year. Mrs. Guthrie, president of the Women's Folk Festival Society will be a guest speaker at the next meeting of the W.A. to be held at "Hofn". A Valentine concert and social was planned for February.

ARGYLE PARISH NEWS

It was a good Christmas in Argyle Parish; the roads were all open, and the weather fine. The congregations and Sunday Schools had been busy in preparing for the glorious Festival of our Lord's Birth. Special music was presented by the choirs, and the Sunday Schools all presented Christmas songs and pageants and verses. Tall spruce trees decorated the churches for the gatherings on the 24th and 25th.

At a service on December 11th, in the Glenboro Church, a beautiful stone Baptismal Font was dedicated. It was presented to the church by the Lambertsen family in memory of the late G. Lambertsen, who for many years served on the Glenboro Church Council. He was its secretary for 25 years.

On Sunday evening January 8th, a special service was conducted in the Immanuel Church in Baldur. It was a Memorial Service for Pilot Officer Herman Jonasson, who was killed in action in the last war. At this service beautiful "Memorial Lights" were dedicated to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of Herman Jonasson. They were the gift of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Jonasson of Baldur; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hunter, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Johnson.

The annual meeting of the Baldur congregation was held Sunday evening, January 8th. Reports of officers, pastor, and organizations were submitted. New business was discussed. Reports showed that much work had been done to the physical structure of the church the past year: The Church was completely painted and redecorated on both the exterior, and interior; a new pulpit drape made by Mrs. C. Thorsteins-son was dedicated; the foundation of the church was repaired, and a new furnace was installed. In the financial reports it was revealed that the congregation, supported by the Ladies Aid, had contributed liberally to Lutheran World Action

and the Missions Fund. All officers were re-elected.

At a membership service in Glenboro Church in November the following were brought into the fellowship of the church: Mrs. Fred Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Presunka, Mr. and Mrs. Mundi Myrdal, and Mrs. Harold Jonsson.

Last September funeral services were conducted for Baby David Goodman in Baldur Church. The infant was but a week old, the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Goodman. Also in Baldur Church services were conducted for Carl Storm, young Danish lad who was killed in a tractor accident. In October funeral services were conducted for Haraldur Isfeld of Bru; Bru Church to Bru cemetery.

Recent weddings in the parish are the following: Miss Eleanor Anderson of Baldur, to Mr. Robert Brydon; Miss Jonina Johnson of Baldur to Mr. Alli Sigvaldason of Baldur; Miss Margaret Johnson of Glenboro to Mr. Jack Lukiw of Belmont; Miss Elvina Frederickson of Glenboro to Mr. William Jamieson of Holland, Man.

Recent baptisms are the following: Gloria Mae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lindal Hallgrimson of Bru; David Louis and Emily Margaret, children of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Johnson formerly of Glenboro; Harvey Grant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Laluk of Glenboro; Donald Raye, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Johnson of Bru; Brenda Darlene, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mundi Bjornson of Glenboro; Mark Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wilton of Reston, Man.; Martin William, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johanesson of Rosburn, Man.; Larry John Christian, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. O'Dell of Baldur.

On November 23, the annual meeting of the Bru congregation was held. Reports were submitted by the officers, pastor, and organizations. These indicated a good and active year. Attendance at services was quite good, as was also true for the Sunday School. Treasurer's report revealed that both Lutheran World Action and the Missions Fund had been well supported during the past year. All officers were re-elected except that Th. I. Hallgrimson replaced H. S. Johnson on the Board of Trustees as treasurer.

Special Harvest-Thanksgiving services were conducted in all four churches last October, with the administration of Holy Communion.

The Young People's Associations in Baldur and Glenboro have been meeting regularly this fall and winter. Our congregations join with the United Church in its Youth Organization. Many of the Young people of Bru and Grund attend either of these two organizations.